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Making sense of the world

THE WEEK

Junior

THE BEST
MAGAZINE FOR
CURIOUS
KIDS

FENWAY

Get a grand-slam look at Boston's historic baseball stadium p12



This week's big news

ALERT FOR ANIMALS

Bison in Yellowstone National Park often cause "bison jams" on the roads, as cars wait for herds to cross.



Flooding washed out this road in Yellowstone.

Hailstorm in Mexico City



A heavy and extremely rare hailstorm covered parts of Mexico City in ice on June 12, damaging buildings and trees. The ice caused a supermarket roof to collapse, and 200 people were evacuated from inside. The severe storm also covered roads in ice, which caused officials to warn residents to stay home.

Yellowstone closed due to floods

Half of Yellowstone National Park will be closed for at least the rest of 2022 after massive flooding occurred on June 13. Rivers overflowed in and around Yellowstone, which is celebrating its 150th anniversary as a national park.

What is Yellowstone?

Established in 1872, Yellowstone was the world's first national park. Today, it is one of the most popular national parks in the US. In 2021, Yellowstone drew 4.86 million guests, making it the third most visited national park in the country, after Great Smoky Mountains and Zion. Yellowstone is located mostly in Wyoming and spills over into parts of Montana and Idaho. At 3,472 square miles, the park is larger than Rhode Island and Delaware combined. Yellowstone is home to more than 500 geysers, about 290 thundering waterfalls, and 67 types of mammals, including grizzly bears and Canada lynx, both of which are threatened species.

What happened?

Historic floods struck the northern half of Yellowstone, washing away roads and bridges, triggering mudslides, and swamping surrounding communities. Yellowstone's main road forms the

shape of a figure eight. Flooding washed away parts of the road, and trees and mudslides blocked portions of the northern loop, which includes popular destinations such as the Lamar Valley and Mammoth Hot Springs. In the hard-hit Montana towns of Fromberg and Red Lodge, more than 100 houses were damaged or destroyed. The US Geological Survey said the flooding amounted to an event that happens once every 500 years.

Why did this happen?

Flooding began when up to five inches of heavy rain fell between June 10 and 13. Climate experts at the park said average precipitation levels in the region in June were 400% higher than normal. The rains combined with melting snow in the Absaroka and Beartooth mountain ranges along the Montana-Wyoming state line, causing the Yellowstone and Gardner rivers and their tributaries to rise to unprecedented levels.

What is the effect?

As the water levels rose, park and town officials ordered the evacuation of about 10,000 people. Montana Army National Guard helicopters rescued about 100 people from campsites and surrounding towns. In Billings, Montana, and elsewhere, flooding knocked out

local water supplies for hundreds of thousands of people. The road connecting the town of Gardiner, Montana, to Yellowstone was destroyed and will likely take two years to rebuild, endangering Gardiner's tourist business. "It's a Yellowstone town," Bill Berg, commissioner of Park County, where Gardiner is located, said at a news conference. "It lives and dies by tourism, and this is going to be a pretty big hit." Park officials said that as far as they could tell, the animals that live in the park had been mostly unaffected. The animals will, however, have to adapt to a changed habitat in the coming months, and wildlife experts will observe and help where they can.

What will happen next?

The southern part of Yellowstone, which was closed during the flooding, was set to partially reopen on June 22. This loop includes some of the park's most famous features, including Old Faithful, a geyser that erupts on a mostly predictable schedule about 20 times a day. "We have made tremendous progress in a very short amount of time, but have a long way to go," Cam Sholly, the park's superintendent, said in a press release. Officials said it could take years and as much as \$1 billion to repair the northern section of the park. Because the park is owned by the US government, federal funding will pay for the repairs.



A southern entrance to the park

This week's big news

DID YOU KNOW?
The 27 countries of the EU form the world's largest economy and have a total population of nearly 448 million people.

Scientists spot two new planets

An international team of scientists discovered a planetary system—a group of planets orbiting a star, like our solar system—relatively close to Earth. Using a satellite belonging to NASA (the US space agency), the team found two rocky planets about the same size as Earth.

NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) observes nearby stars. It showed that a star known as HD 260655 sometimes dipped in brightness as planets crossed in front of it. One of the planets, called HD 260655b, is about 1.2 times the size of Earth and orbits the star every 2.8 days. The other, HD 260655c, is 1.5 times Earth's size and orbits the star every 5.7 days. Both planets appear to be rocky, like Earth, but too hot to host living things on the surface.

Scientists called the finding "very exciting." Studying these planets outside our solar system gives researchers an opportunity to look for signs of water and life. They also plan to keep studying the planetary system to see if it contains more planets and whether any can support life.

An illustration of the planets



From left to right, the leaders of Romania, Germany, Italy, Ukraine, and France

World leaders visit Ukraine

On June 16, the leaders of four nations in the European Union (EU) traveled to Ukraine to show support for the war-torn country. President Klaus Iohannis of Romania, Chancellor Olaf Scholz of Germany, Prime Minister Mario Draghi of Italy, and President Emmanuel Macron of France met with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky in the capital city of Kyiv. The leaders want Ukraine to join the EU, an alliance of 27 nations.

Russia invaded Ukraine in February, and most of Europe is united in support of Ukraine. "Europe is at your side and will remain so as long as necessary," Macron told Zelensky. Ukraine would benefit from EU membership in many ways. Because EU countries are required to support other member nations under attack, military support

against Russia would be solidified. Membership would also strengthen Ukraine's economy and allow citizens to move freely throughout the EU.

The European leaders said they will send additional weapons to help Ukraine defend itself, regardless of the country's EU membership status. The US is also increasing its support. On June 15, President Joe Biden committed another \$1 billion in military aid to Ukraine, bringing the US commitment to more than \$5 billion.

In order for Ukraine to join the EU, all 27 member countries must agree to grant it candidate status. EU leaders will discuss that at a summit on June 23 and 24. Full membership in the EU can take more than 10 years, but Ukraine's request could be speeded up.



IT'S AN AMAZING WEEK FOR...

AN AARDVARK'S ARRIVAL

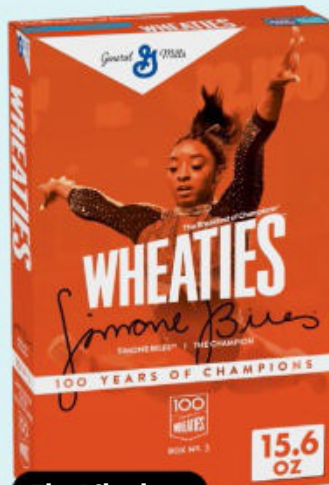
A baby aardvark was born at the San Diego Zoo for the first time in nearly 40 years. "We can't wait until we are able to introduce the cub to our zoo guests, helping them learn more about this remarkable species," a zoo official said.



The baby aardvark

A CEREAL CHAMPION

Simone Biles, the most decorated gymnast in history, has another honor to add to her list. She's the latest champion to appear on a Wheaties box during the celebration of the cereal's 100th year. This "means the world to me," she said.



The Biles box

MIMICKING A MERMAID

A real-life "eco mermaid" is setting records to protect the seas. Merle Liivand swims with a single fin to raise awareness of plastic pollution in the ocean. She swam 26.2 miles off the coast of Florida without using her arms to set a new record, collecting trash along the way. "I want my message to be heard," she said.

Merle Liivand

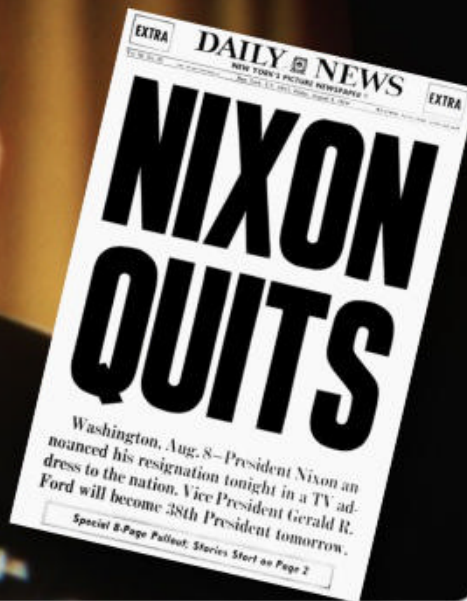




DID YOU KNOW?

President Richard Nixon signed the Clean Air Act into law in 1970.

President Richard Nixon addresses the nation on TV in 1973.



Watergate reporters



Washington Post reporters Carl Bernstein and Bob Woodward (above left and right) uncovered the Watergate scandal and won a Pulitzer Prize for their reporting. Woodward, now 79, has written or co-written 21 books and is an editor at the Post. Bernstein, 78, is the author of six books and a political analyst for CNN.

US marks 50 years since Watergate

On June 17, the US marked the 50th anniversary of Watergate, one of the biggest political scandals in US history. The event led to President Richard Nixon (1913–1994) resigning from office.

What was Watergate?

In the early hours of June 17, 1972, five men broke into the Democratic National Committee's headquarters at the Watergate Hotel and office complex in Washington, DC. Police arrested them. Nixon, a Republican running for reelection that year, was suspected of being involved, but his administration denied it. It was later discovered that the people who were arrested were trying to spy on Nixon's Democratic opponent, George McGovern. Nixon and his top officials took steps to cover up their connection to the crime.

How was the connection revealed?

At first, Nixon convinced the public that he wasn't involved with the crime, and he won reelection in 1972. But over the course of two years, two reporters from *The Washington Post* investigated the activities of Nixon and his administration (see box above). Taped conversations were released, revealing that Nixon was involved in trying to cover up the crime. The reporters were helped by an anonymous (unnamed) source. Years later, that source was revealed to be Mark Felt, deputy director of the FBI (US law enforcement agency).

What happened to President Nixon?

In July 1974, a committee in the House of Representatives (one half of Congress, the branch of government that makes laws) adopted three

articles of impeachment (charges of misconduct) against Nixon. The House was then required to vote on impeachment, but the vote never occurred. Faced with the likelihood that he would be impeached and possibly removed from office, Nixon resigned on August 9, 1974. He is the only US President to do so. In total, 69 people were charged with Watergate-related crimes. Of those, 48 pleaded guilty and 13 were convicted at trial.

What was the effect of Watergate?

The scandal contributed to a decrease in public trust in the federal government. Afterward, fewer people said they believed government officials would do the right thing. The name Watergate is also the reason why people now attach the word "gate" to the names of scandals that occur.



WORD OF THE WEEK

PARROT

The origin of the word "parrot" may lie in our habit of giving human names to birds—as with the "robin," for example, or "magpie," where the "mag" is short for "Marguerite." "Parrot" was first recorded in the early 16th century and probably comes from the French *Pierrot*, a pet form of the name Pierre or "Peter."



THE WEEK IN HISTORY

July 1, 1963

Postal service introduces zip codes
On July 1, 1963, zip codes were introduced by the US Postal Service in an effort to deliver mail more efficiently. Zip stands for "zone improvement plan." The numbers in a zip code indicate the region and area where an address is located. The new system was not popular at first. People were not sure they could memorize the numbers. Today there are nearly 42,000 zip codes in the US.



A mail carrier in the 1960s



Gasoline prices reach record high

On June 11, the average cost of gasoline across the country went above \$5 a gallon for the first time. Gas prices have been rising since April 2020 and reached an average of \$4 a gallon in March 2021. The Russian invasion of Ukraine, high global oil prices, and increased demand are among the reasons for the spike in price. Experts said it is unlikely that the cost will decline soon and that it could climb to nearly \$6 a gallon.



One of the lions

Chicago's lions getting cleaned

The two bronze lions at the Art Institute of Chicago were removed for cleaning on June 14. The 128-year-old statues were designed by Edward Kemeys in 1893 for Chicago's first World Fair. Last cleaned 21 years ago, the lions will be steamed, waxed, and checked for damage. Experts expect them to return to the entrance in mid-July. They will still be green but will look more lustrous (shiny), an official said.



Dolly Parton

Singer donates to help children

Dolly Parton, an award-winning singer, songwriter, and humanitarian, has donated \$1 million to help cure diseases that affect children. The money will fund research at Vanderbilt University Medical Center in Tennessee. Parton first connected with the center when her niece was successfully treated for leukemia (a type of cancer) there. "No child should ever have to suffer," she said.



Junior Council member Aarav



Harini Logan

WOW!
More than 11 million children in the US take part in the Scripps spelling bee program each year.

Bee champ speaks to *The Week Junior*

Harini Logan, a 14-year-old from Texas, won the 94th annual Scripps National Spelling Bee on June 2, in a televised contest outside Washington, DC. *The Week Junior's* Junior Council member Aarav, 13, interviewed Logan about her experience competing in the contest.

Aarav: How did it feel to win?

Harini Logan: I was so overwhelmed, and it was just surreal for me. I was so busy that I didn't really get to think about my win!

Aarav: What has life been like for you since then?

Logan: I got to appear on the TV show *Live with Kelly and Ryan*. On the way back home to San Antonio, I was stopped by people in the airport who said, "Can I take a selfie with you?" I'm like, OK, people actually know me!

Aarav: How did you get your start?

Logan: I've always had a deep love for words and reading. When I was young, it was thrilling to see these cool big kids spell words I'd never heard of. I entered my first bee in 2nd grade.

Aarav: How much studying did you do?

Logan: In 2nd grade, I went to a national bee and didn't do as well as I had hoped I would. I realized I would have to put in more work. By 4th grade, I probably studied two hours a day on weekdays and five hours on weekends. Leading up to this year's bee, I studied three to five hours on weekdays and eight to 10 hours on weekends. So it did take up a lot of my time, but I am glad that it paid off.

Aarav: What have you learned from competing in bees?

Logan: My mom encouraged me to embrace a "growth" mindset. Even if I don't do as well as I'd hoped at a bee, I can figure out why I got a word wrong and try to get better. I think having a growth mindset is vital in life, not just in bees, and I'm very glad to have learned that skill.

Aarav: Do you like playing Wordle?

Logan: I've always been pretty good at crosswords, but Wordle has been a struggle. I'm getting better, though!



THE WEEK'S SILLIEST HEADLINE

"Escaped bull visits commuter train station platform in Scotland" UPI





Around the world



The boxing class



Mexico

World's largest boxing class held

On June 18, at Mexico City's main square, the Zocalo, 14,299 people gathered for a boxing lesson. The class was taught by 15 current and former fighters. Participants wore green, white, and red shirts, covering the square in the colors of the Mexican flag as they boxed for 30 minutes. The event broke the world record for the largest boxing class, which was previously held by a group of about 3,200 people in Moscow, Russia.



Gustavo Petro and Francia Marquez



Colombia

Country elects new president

On June 19, for the first time in its history, Colombia elected a leftist (supporter of social and economic equality) president. Gustavo Petro, the 62-year-old former rebel turned mayor and senator, defeated conservative candidate Rodolfo Hernandez. Also making history was Francia Marquez, who was elected Colombia's first Black vice president. Petro said in his acceptance speech, "We are writing history at this moment."



An empty station



United Kingdom

Train workers go on strike

About 40,000 railroad workers walked out on June 21, the first day of the biggest transit strike in the UK in 30 years. Major train stations were nearly deserted, and only about 20% of passenger trains were scheduled to run. The dispute centers on pay, working conditions, and job security. Prime Minister Boris Johnson said the strikes are "wrong and unnecessary."



Paris, France

Macron loses majority

President Emmanuel Macron lost control of the French parliament (similar to Congress) following elections on June 19. Parties loyal to Macron lost their majority in the French National Assembly, while parties led by Jean-Luc Mélenchon and Marine Le Pen both made gains. Macron is now likely to have a hard time getting laws passed.



Emmanuel Macron



Slovenia

Ukraine youth orchestra goes on tour

A youth orchestra from Ukraine is touring Europe and the US this summer. About 140 children and family members fled from war-torn Ukraine to safety in Slovenia, taking their instruments with them. Živa Ploj Peršuh, a Slovenian musician, organized the relocation and said the young musicians deserve to feel valued. In June, they performed at the Bach Festival in Leipzig, Germany, which was streamed on YouTube.



The orchestra

GETTY IMAGES (7); AP; SHUTTERSTOCK; ALAMY



Patricia Espinosa



Bonn, Germany Little progress at climate talks

World leaders met for climate talks in Bonn, but the conference ended with little progress. Poor countries said they are experiencing the effects of climate change because of the actions of richer nations and would like to see them do more to fix the problem. "We can do better, we must," said Patricia Espinosa, the departing United Nations climate chief.



BTS



South Korea BTS announce break for solo projects

The K-pop band BTS has announced they will be taking a break from working together. On June 14, the band said they would be splitting up so they can try other things, such as making records as solo artists. Made up of seven members, BTS was the world's best-selling music act in 2021. Band member Jimin said the band is "going through a rough patch right now" and "we're trying to find our identity."



People shelter at a school.



Sylhet, Bangladesh Region hit by worst floods in 20 years

Heavy rains brought by monsoon season (the changing direction of heavy winds in a region), in northeast Bangladesh, have caused the worst flooding in the area in nearly 20 years. When *The Week Junior* went to press, at least 114 people had died in Bangladesh and India, and millions were stranded. Local official Mohammad Hossain told Reuters news agency that the main challenge is ensuring that safe drinking water is available.



Sydney Opera House



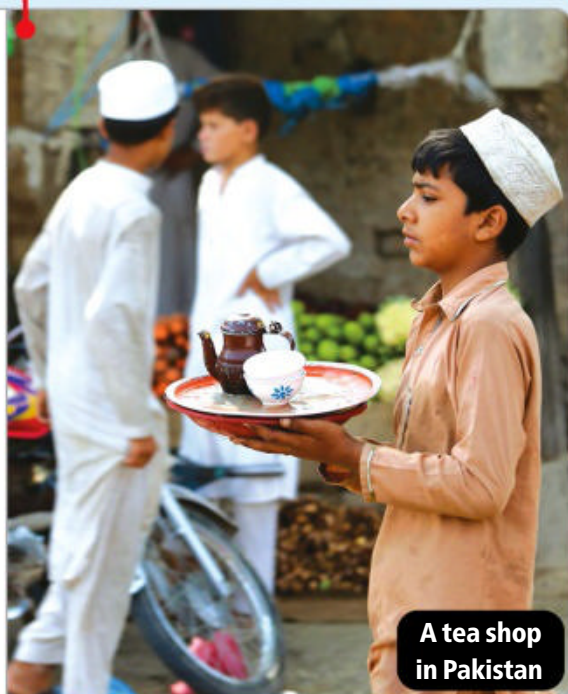
New South Wales, Australia Energy-saving step is requested

Australia's energy minister, Chris Bowen, has asked people in the state of New South Wales to turn off their lights for two hours every evening to help save energy. Australia is facing an energy crisis because coal and gas prices have risen since Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The government has also said it may stop coal from being sold to other countries.



Pakistan Government asks people to drink less tea

The government in Pakistan has asked people to drink fewer cups of tea. Government minister Ahsan Iqbal has said that consuming less tea would save the country money by reducing imports (when goods are bought from other countries). Iqbal asked people to cut the number of cups of tea they drink per day to a maximum of two. Last year, Pakistan bought more than \$600 million worth of tea from abroad.



A tea shop in Pakistan



The big debate

Should summer reading be mandatory?

Some say reading shouldn't stop when school's out. Others say leave it up to kids.

What you need to know

- Summer reading programs have been around since as early as the 1890s. They are meant to help prevent the "summer slide" — when students forget what they learned in school.
- In a recent survey, 59% of kids said they enjoy reading over the summer. Most of them said it's because they get to read whatever and whenever they want.
- The same study, however, found that 20% of kids didn't read any books over the summer.



School's out! But for some, there are still assignments to be done. Many teachers require students to read books during summer vacation. Some provide specific books that must be finished before the fall, while others allow children to choose their own reading material and report back on what they read when they return to the classroom. People who support required reading in the summer say it helps kids academically because they continue to learn and practice their reading skills. But others believe forcing kids to read during their time off from school has a negative effect. What do you think? Should summer reading be mandatory?

Yes—kids need to keep reading

It's important for children to read over the summer. Experts have found that during the long break, students lose some of the skills they learned during the school year and can fall behind, especially if they struggle with reading. Teachers often spend the first weeks of school getting students caught up again. It has been proven that having kids read over the summer makes the transition easier. Besides, summer is the perfect time to dive into the world of books. Kids can take their time enjoying a book wherever and whenever they like, without the pressure of schoolwork. And when they return in the fall, they'll be ready to jump into discussions.

No—reading shouldn't be forced

What children read, and when they read, should be up to them. A love of reading is more likely to develop when it's not forced. Required summer reading can make kids resentful instead of getting them excited about reading. Research has shown that when kids are inspired to learn for their own reasons, rather than because they have to, they learn better. And what about kids who can't afford to buy books or don't have access to a library? Required reading is unfair to them. Plus, students need a chance to relax and just be kids after the stressful school year. They will be better rested and ready to learn after a summer spent having fun.

YES Three reasons why summer reading should be mandatory

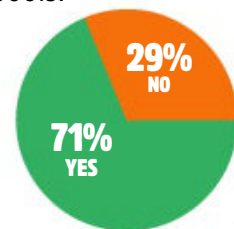
- 1 It keeps kids from falling behind in school, especially if they struggle with reading.
- 2 Kids will be ready to learn in the fall, and teachers don't have to spend as much time getting them caught up.
- 3 It's fun to get lost in a book during the summer, when kids have extra time to absorb and enjoy every word of it.

NO Three reasons why summer reading should not be mandatory

- 1 When reading is forced on kids, they are not developing a lifelong love of learning.
- 2 Summer is a time for fun, rest, and relaxation, not for adding pressure with a reading requirement.
- 3 Some kids don't have easy access to books. Making reading mandatory would be unfair to them.

LAST WEEK'S POLL

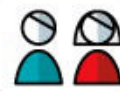
Last week, we asked if people should be allowed to rent out pools. Most of you said yes, but nearly a third of you said no.



What do you think?

Now that you've read a bit more about this issue, have a parent or guardian visit theweekjunior.com/polls with you so you can vote in our debate. Vote **YES** if you think summer reading should be mandatory or **NO** if you don't. We'll publish the results next week.

The goal of the big debate is to present two sides of an issue fairly in order to stimulate discussion and allow our readers to make up their minds. The views on this page do not reflect those of *The Week Junior*, and the page is not funded by third parties.



Rising to the top

The inspiring story of NBA champion Giannis Antetokounmpo is now a movie.

From their native Greece to the National Basketball Association (NBA), brothers Giannis, Thanasis, and Kostas Antetokounmpo have had a long journey to the top. Now a new film on Disney+, *Rise*, tells the story of the family's ascent to sports stardom.

Giannis Antetokounmpo, 27, is an executive producer of the film. He was born in Athens, Greece, to Nigerian parents and is one of five brothers. When his parents immigrated to Greece, they faced discrimination and financial hardship. Giannis and his brothers helped out by selling watches and sunglasses to tourists in Athens.

The 6-foot, 11-inch star forward discovered basketball at age 13. He and Thanasis were invited to a local youth basketball club after someone spotted their athletic talent playing soccer. From there,

Giannis played on the Greek national basketball team, which attracted attention from NBA scouts. In 2013, Giannis was drafted into the NBA by the Milwaukee Bucks. A year later, Thanasis, 29, joined the team. And in 2018, Kostas, 24, joined the Los Angeles Lakers.

The Antetokounmpos are the first trio of brothers to each win an NBA championship. Last July, Giannis and Thanasis led the Bucks to their first NBA championship in 50 years. Kostas won a championship with the Lakers in 2020.

Rise is a sports drama biopic (movie that depicts a person's life). Giannis, who is played on screen by Uche Agada, said of the film, "My hope is that it will inspire those in similar circumstances to keep the faith, stay true to their goals, and not give up on striving for a better life."



A poster for the film

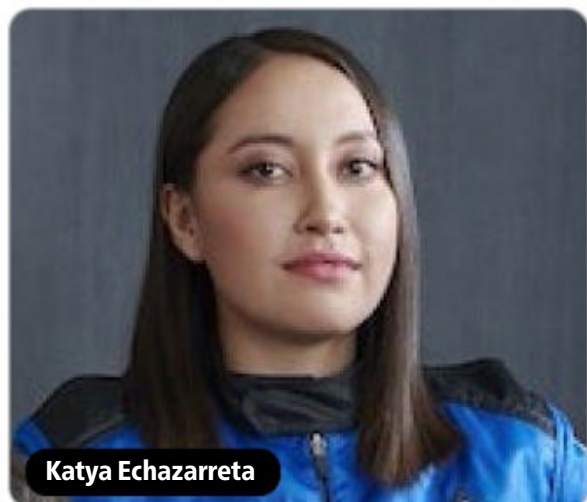


Giannis Antetokounmpo

WOW! Giannis Antetokounmpo was named the NBA's Most Valuable Player twice, in 2019 and 2020.

A space milestone

On June 4, Katya Echazarreta, 26, became the first woman born in Mexico to travel to space. Echazarreta moved to the US at age 7. As a teen, she worked several jobs to help support her family. Now she is studying engineering at Johns Hopkins University and teaches people about science on YouTube, TikTok, and TV. She was selected from thousands of applicants to fly on a Blue Origin rocket. After having seen Earth from above, she told CNN, "The only thing I could think of when I came back down was that I need people to see this."



Katya Echazarreta

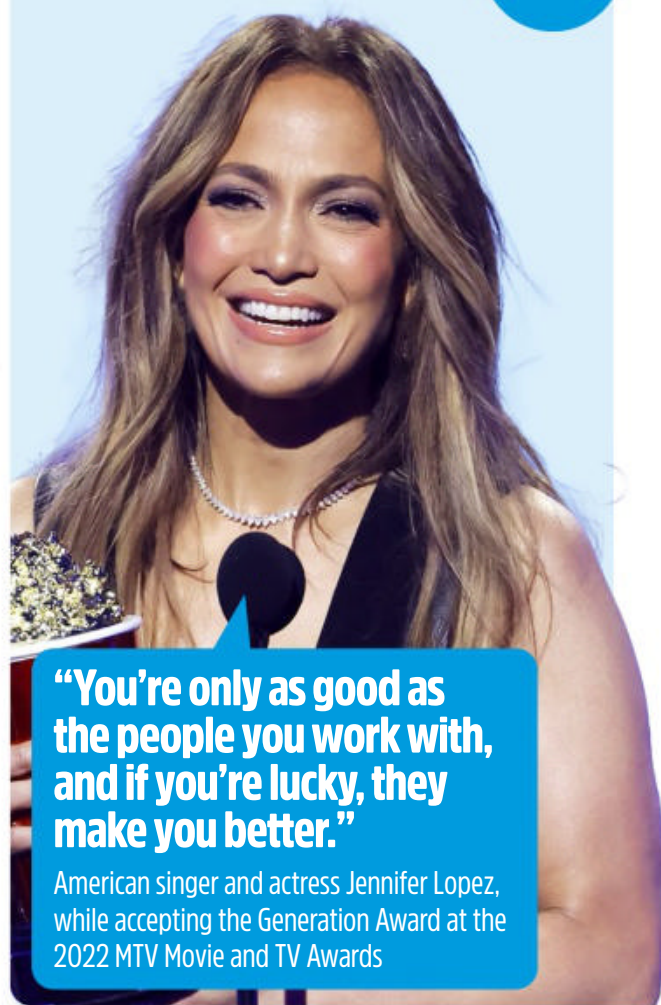


Clark Little

Making art of waves

Fifteen years ago, surfer Clark Little swam into the ocean with a disposable camera to snap a picture of a wave for his bedroom wall. After that, Little, a surfer who lives in Hawaii, launched a new career photographing waves. He specializes in pictures of shorebreak waves (large waves that crash directly into sand rather than shallow water). He recently released a hardcover book, *Clark Little: The Art of Waves*, which includes more than 150 of his photographs. Little said he hopes the book will help "people close and far from Hawaii to experience the beauty of our islands and oceans."

OVERHEARD



"You're only as good as the people you work with, and if you're lucky, they make you better."

American singer and actress Jennifer Lopez, while accepting the Generation Award at the 2022 MTV Movie and TV Awards



Animals and the environment



Scallops like disco lights

Fishermen in the UK have discovered that scallops like “disco” lights. While testing a new way to catch crabs, fishermen instead found that pots fitted with flashing LED lights attract scallops. Scallops are caught in nets dragged across the ocean floor, which can damage habitats. This new way may cause less harm.

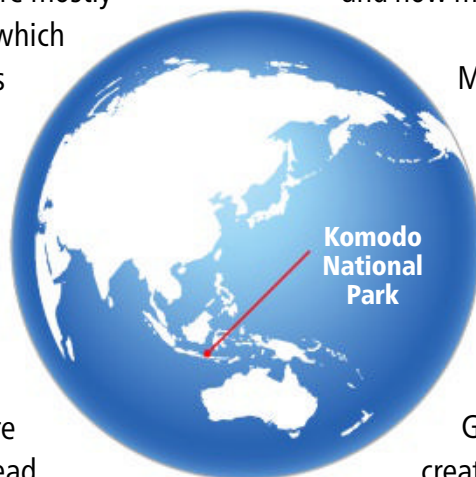


Rare rays have favorite reefs

Researchers studying the lifestyle of reef manta rays—one of the world’s biggest fish—have found that they are mostly creatures of habit. The rays, which can grow up to 16 feet across and weigh more than 1,500 pounds, live in large numbers in Komodo National Park in Indonesia. They swim in shallow waters near the coast and frequently visit “cleaning stations” on coral reefs, where small fish pick off the rays’ dead skin and any itchy pests.

As a result, Komodo has become a popular place for tourists to scuba dive and see these

giants up close. Until now, however, scientists haven’t really known how many rays there are and how much they move around.



A team from the Marine Megafauna Foundation (“megafauna” is a scientific word for large animals) and Murdoch University in Australia set out to find the answers by asking tourists and dive operators for their help. Scientist Elitza

Germanov and her colleagues created a website named

MantaMatcher, where people could report encounters with reef manta rays and upload photos. These allowed experts to

identify the animals individually from the markings on their undersides.

Germanov said she was “amazed” by how eager people were to help gather data. “With their support, we were able to identify over 1,000 individual manta rays from over 4,000 photographs,” she said. The photographs showed that the rays, which have a life span of up to 50 years, are present in Komodo all year round. Some travel long distances but most stick close to certain reefs and won’t move to others even just a few miles away.

The researchers say their findings could help protect the rays in the future. If the fish do not move elsewhere when fishing or tourism disrupts their habitats, people will have to limit their activity around the rays’ favorite reefs.



PLACE OF THE WEEK

Gateway National Recreation Area

Stretching from New Jersey to New York City, Gateway National Recreation Area is more than 26,000 acres of beaches, forests, and marshes. This federally protected parkland provides people who live in dense urban environments with opportunities to enjoy nature, like bird watching, ocean swimming, hiking, and camping. Ospreys nest in the park in the summer, while American oystercatchers snack on shellfish along the shore. Common milkweed plants throughout the area serve as hosts for monarch butterflies, and beach plum shrubs grow on the sand dunes.





WOW!
There are about 655 recognized species of salamanders in the world.

The wandering salamander can glide through the air.

Salamanders skydive from tall trees

Wandering salamanders live in the tops of California redwoods, which can reach 300 feet high and are the tallest trees in the world. Scientists have wondered how salamanders survive falls from such heights. Now, in a new study, University of California at Berkeley researchers have concluded that wandering salamanders have adapted to glide in mid-air, similar to skydiving.

For their research, the scientists nudged salamanders off a high perch into a vertical wind tunnel, with air circulating upward, to simulate a free fall from a tree. They observed

how wandering salamanders could turn, flip, and pump their tail to reposition themselves. "The level of control is just impressive," said one researcher. Scientists believe the aerial skills of these amphibians evolved to deal with falls from high trees, and in order to leap away from predators.

Of all the salamander species studied, the wandering salamander was the best at skydiving. Now scientists want to explore how these salamanders move in mid-air without major differences, other than larger foot pads, from non-skydiving salamanders.

Animal of the week

Spotted fanaloka



The Nashville Zoo recently welcomed the first known spotted fanaloka born in the US. Visitors will be able to see the male pup, who was born to parents who live at the zoo. Together, the family of three are the only known fanalokas at a US zoo.

- **LIFE SPAN:** About 21 years in captivity
- **SIZE:** Grows to about the size of a domestic cat
- **HABITAT:** Wooded areas of Madagascar
- **DIET:** Small mammals, reptiles, and bird eggs
- **FUN FACT:** In the winter, it stores fat in its tail, which can weigh up to 25% of its body weight.



Good week / Bad week



Greater one-horned rhinos

The population of greater one-horned rhinos has reached 4,104 individuals, the highest number since at least the 1980s. Efforts in India and Nepal to protect them from poaching (illegal hunting) have helped the animals recover.



Sperm whale

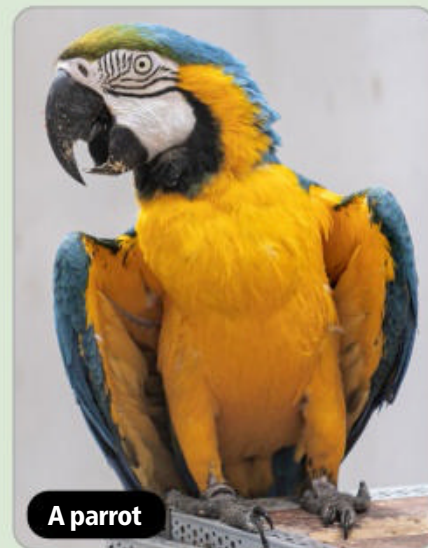
Several sperm whales have been found dead on shores this year, including in Israel, the Philippines, and the Florida Keys. Four were found dead in May alone. The creatures are considered at high risk of disappearing from the wild.



Lori Smith
Zookeeper,
Smithsonian's National Zoo

"Why are birds in the parrot family so smart?" Robbie, 10, Maryland

Parrots have a specific region in their brain that is two to five times larger and more developed than other birds', and it's responsible for language, memory, and mimicry (imitation). It is what gives parrots their excellent thinking, remembering, and problem-solving skills!



A parrot

Do you have a question for a zookeeper? Send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. Find out more about Smithsonian's National Zoo at nationalzoo.si.edu.



A beloved ballpark

The historic Fenway Park is the heart and home of the Boston Red Sox.

Located in the city of Boston, Massachusetts, Fenway Park is the oldest active stadium in Major League Baseball. Let's learn more about the field known as "America's Most Beloved Ballpark."



Babe Ruth (second from right) and other pitchers

How the baseball stadium began

In 1910, Red Sox owner John I. Taylor decided to build a new ballpark for his team, which had been playing in a wood stadium called Huntington Avenue Grounds. He wanted a modern "jewel box" style, made of concrete and steel with two tiers of seating. Taylor chose the city's "Fens" section for the new location. On April 20, 1912, Fenway Park opened for its first game, and the Red Sox beat the New York Highlanders (now known as the Yankees).



The manual scoreboard

What makes Fenway Park special

Fenway is now only one of two jewel-box parks left in the US (the other is Wrigley Field in Chicago). To the people of Boston, it is an enduring symbol of sports history. Fenway seats are green except for a single red one. It symbolizes the longest home run in Red Sox history, hit in 1946 by Hall of Famer Ted Williams. A scoreboard operated by hand is one of the last of its kind in baseball. The field is also an irregular shape, built to fit Boston's famously crooked streets.



DID YOU KNOW?

Fenway Park is one of the smallest stadiums in Major League Baseball. It is one of eight that holds fewer than 40,000 spectators.

Fenway Park is asymmetrical—it is not the same shape on both sides.

The Green Monster

At 37 feet, 2 inches tall, "The Green Monster" in Fenway's left field is the highest wall in Major League Baseball. It was first built in 1912, to prevent fans on the street from watching games for free. The Red Sox owner had a wood fence erected, but a 1933 fire destroyed it. When Fenway was

rebuilt in 1934, a new concrete wall and manual scoreboard were made. In 1947, the wall was painted green to match the stadium, leading to its nickname. In 1997, team mascot Wally the Green Monster made his first appearance. Today, fans seated by the Green Monster touch it for good luck.





for 110 years



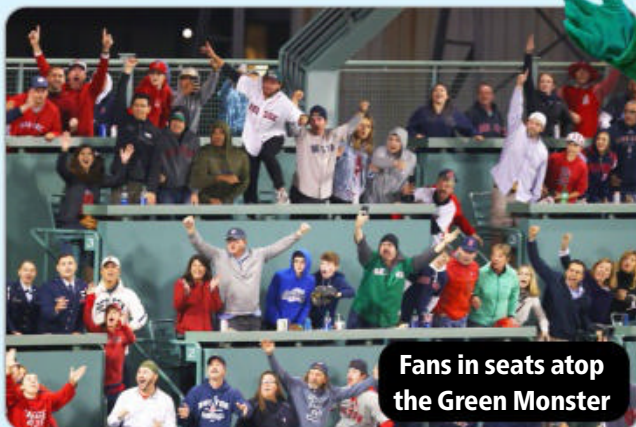
FUN FACT

Inside the park, concession stands sell "Fenway franks" and New England classics like clam chowder and lobster rolls.

HISTORIC HITTER

In 1914, the celebrated slugger Babe Ruth began his career at Fenway with the Red Sox. He was traded to their rival, the New York Yankees, in 1920.

It's tough to hit a ball over the wall.



Fans in seats atop the Green Monster



Wally the Green Monster



Big League Brian

Fenway traditions

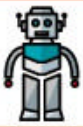
At Fenway Park, Red Sox fans have longstanding rituals that set the stadium apart. Since 1997, the ballpark has played Neil Diamond's hit song "Sweet Caroline" in the middle of the eighth inning, and the entire stadium joins in to sing. That same year, Fenway began playing the song "Dirty Water," which is about pollution in the Charles River and Boston Harbor, after every victory. Thousands of people have added their signatures to the "Pesky Pole," the yellow foul pole in right field named for former Red Sox player, coach, and manager Johnny Pesky. For more than a decade, a Red Sox fan known as "Big League Brian" has stood 10 feet tall on stilts outside the stadium on Yawkey Way, greeting fans as they approach the ballpark.



Celebrating a World Series win in 2013

Famous moments at Fenway

In 1998, rumors circulated that Fenway would be demolished to make way for a new stadium. Fans quickly came together to form the Save Fenway Park! Organization. In 2003, new owners took over the team, and by 2005 they committed to staying at Fenway indefinitely. Modern touches to the park were added, like a larger concourse, an upgraded field, and more fan seats, including seats above the famous "Green Monster" wall in left field. In 2012, Fenway was added to the National Register of Historic Places. On October 30, 2013, Red Sox Nation celebrated when the team won its first World Series at home since 1918. In July, retired Red Sox slugger David "Big Papi" Ortiz, age 46, will be the youngest player ever inducted into the Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, New York.



BRAINS OF THE SEA

The sperm whale has the world's biggest brain, which can weigh up to 20 pounds.



An illustration of an *Arctocyon primaevus*

Brawn over brains for early mammals

Mammals, including humans, are known for having big brains compared to the size of their bodies, which many scientists believe is a sign of greater intelligence. Researchers used to think mammals had always had big brains, for hundreds of millions of years. A new study found, however, that mammals' brains were once smaller and their bodies were bigger.

A team of paleontologists (scientists who study the past through fossils) examined the fossils of animal skulls that were recently discovered in New Mexico and Colorado. They looked at some from the Paleocene Epoch (66 million to 56 million years ago), such as *Arctocyon primaevus*, a predator with fangs that was related to modern-day pigs and sheep. Next, they examined animals from the Eocene Epoch (56 million to 34 million years ago), such as *Hyrachyus modestus*, an ancestor of tapirs and rhinoceroses. For each creature, the researchers measured the part of the skull that held the brain.

What they found surprised them. At the beginning of the Paleocene Epoch, an asteroid

killed off all dinosaurs that weren't birds. Many small mammals were left behind but "had to navigate a destroyed world," said Stephen Brusatte, an author of the study. "These were the animals that literally took over from the dinosaurs." With the dinosaurs gone, the mammals were no longer under constant threat of attack and had access to lots of food. As a result, their bodies grew to record sizes.

Their brains, however, did not, because at that point in time, brawn was more important than brains. It wasn't necessary to be smarter in order to survive.

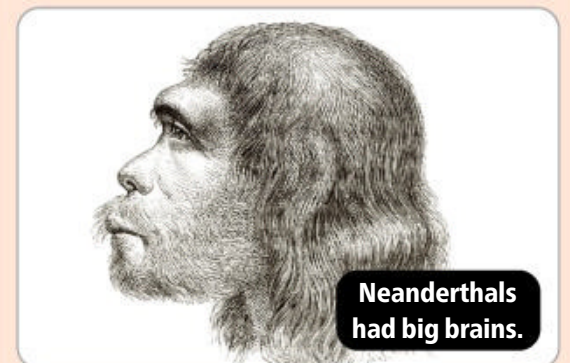
Later, during the Eocene Epoch, the land became crowded with larger mammals, and once again there was greater

competition for food. Animals had to be clever in order to survive. The researchers found that some Eocene mammals' brains began to grow, especially in areas associated with vision and balance. Those well-developed brains could have helped them avoid predators and outsmart competitors. The descendants of these brainy mammals would eventually evolve into modern whales, horses, bats, and humans.



A rendering of *Hyrachyus modestus*

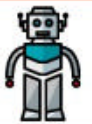
Brain size and smarts



Neanderthals had big brains.

Though many studies have found that bigger brains are associated with higher intelligence, some scientists say it's not that simple. They have suggested that smarts come from other factors, such as the number of neurons (nerve cells that carry information to and from the brain) or the way the brain is structured.

In a study last year that also looked at data comparing brain and body size over time in mammals, researchers concluded that changes to brain size had "nothing to do with" intelligence. Scientific disagreements like these are not uncommon, and, in fact, they help the scientific community evolve its understanding of the world.



Plants grow in soil gathered on the Moon

For the first time, scientists have germinated (grown) seeds in samples of soil collected from the Moon 50 years ago. The team determined that it was harder for the plants to grow in the lunar soil than it was for them to grow in similar soils found on Earth. This could someday help people grow crops on the surface of the Moon.

Researchers at the University of Florida used three very small samples of dusty lunar soil, called regolith, that were gathered by astronauts on the Apollo 11, 12, and 17 missions of 1969 and 1972. The scientists planted seeds of a small flowering plant called thale cress in each of the samples, as well as in volcanic ash from Earth.



The sprouts in lunar soil

Although the cress sprouted in all of the soils, the ones grown in Moon dust grew more slowly and showed more signs of stress. The plants also behaved differently in each of the lunar soils. Researchers believe that's because the samples were collected from separate Apollo landing sites, where the soil had been on the surface for different lengths of time. The older the soil was, the worse the plants fared.

This suggests that the longer the regolith has been exposed to fierce rays from the Sun and outer space, the less welcoming it is for plants. The researchers said lunar farmers could possibly solve this planting problem by digging out better soil from sites that have been exposed for less time.



An astronaut collects lunar soil on the Apollo 17 mission in 1972.

DID YOU KNOW?

The Apollo astronauts brought back 842 pounds of rocks, pebbles, dust, and sand from the Moon.



The record-setting Dallara AV-21

Self-driving car breaks speed record

A robot race car has broken the world land speed record for an autonomous (self-driving) car. The car was built by a team called PoliMOVE, which includes students from the Italian university Politecnico di Milano and the University of Alabama. The car, called a Dallara AV-21, is equipped with radar, sensors, and cameras. It is controlled by algorithms (sets of mathematical rules for a computer to follow).

During a test drive at the Kennedy Space Center in Florida, the AV-21 achieved a top speed of 192.2 mph. That beat the previous record of 175.49 mph, set in 2019.

The final speed was the average of two runs of 0.6 miles each, in opposite directions along the runway. This canceled out any effects that the wind may have had on the car's speed. The team's next target is to try to get the car to 200 mph.



Strong concrete made from masks



Fibers from a mask

Rather than throwing away disposable face masks, a team at Washington State University has repurposed them into strong concrete.

The scientists pulled microscopic fibers out of masks and mixed them with a substance called graphene

oxide. They applied that mixture to a common cement paste.

The resulting concrete was stronger and less prone to cracking than standard concrete. A reinforced material like this could be longer lasting and reduce the amount of cement needed for construction projects.



Photos of the week



Fruit in focus
"The Ultimate Mince Pie"
by Kris Kirkham of the UK



Sweet squares
"Watermelon and Feta Salad"
by Daniela Gerson of the US



EMMA DUNHAM; YULIY VASILEV; DANIELA GERSON; KRIS KIRKHAM; SHARON COSGROVE; MOIRA PITMAN

Photos of the week



Seeing green-ery
"Central Park" by Yuliy
Vasilev of Bulgaria



Creative costume
"Medusa" by Emma
Dunham of the UK



Golden delicious
"Hide and Seek Muffins"
by Moira Pitman of Austria



Wall of cones
"Ice Cream Cones" by
Sharon Cosgrove of the UK



Sports

FUN FACT

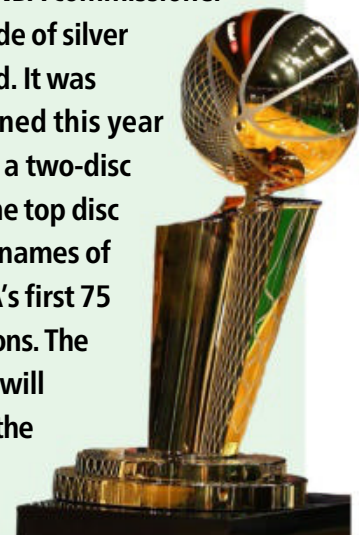
The last time teams from Boston and San Francisco met in an NBA championship was 1964.



Golden State Warriors

Championship trophy

The team that wins the NBA title receives the Larry O'Brien trophy. It is named after a former NBA commissioner and made of silver and gold. It was redesigned this year to have a two-disc base. The top disc has the names of the NBA's first 75 champions. The bottom will feature the next 25.



Golden State Warriors win NBA title

On June 16, the Golden State Warriors became the 2022 National Basketball Association (NBA) champions after beating the Boston Celtics, 103–90, in Game 6 of the seven-game NBA Finals. It is the team's fourth title over the past eight seasons.

This was the NBA's 75th anniversary season, and the teams in the finals turned out to be two of the NBA's three remaining original franchises. The Warriors began in Philadelphia but are now based in San Francisco.

The Celtics won Game 1 and Game 3 of the finals, making for an exciting start to the series. The Warriors, however, dominated the next three games and were up 3–2 entering Game 6.

The Celtics began that game in fantastic form, taking an early 12–2 lead, which forced the Warriors to use an early time-out to halt the momentum. Still, by the end of the first quarter, Golden State led 27–22 and never gave back the lead.



Steph Curry

Warriors guard Stephen Curry put together a tremendous performance in Game 6 to help secure his team's victory. He scored 34 points, grabbed seven rebounds, and dished out seven assists in the win. He also hit six three-pointers. For the first time in his career, Curry was named the NBA Finals Most Valuable Player (MVP). During the series against Boston, he averaged 31 points, six rebounds, and

five assists per game. Other key Warriors players during their championship run were guard Klay Thompson and forward Draymond Green.

Celtics forward Jaylen Brown did all he could in the final game, scoring 34 points and pulling in seven rebounds. Boston had defied the odds by reaching the NBA Finals this season. On January 6, they were in 11th place in the Eastern Conference with a record of 18–21. Over the remaining 43 games of the season, they had a record of 33–10. They were the second-seeded (ranked) team in the East entering the playoffs. This was the first time Boston had made the NBA Finals since 2010.

The Warriors' head coach, Steve Kerr, has led the team to all four of its recent NBA titles. The team was celebrated with a parade in San Francisco on June 20.

THIS WEEK'S WINNERS...

SWIMMING

American para swimmers (athletes with physical, visual, or intellectual impairments) won 24 world titles and 40 medals overall at the Madeira 2022 Para Swimming World Championships in Portugal, which ended on June 18.

Team USA's Leanne Smith made history by winning all seven of her events, including two golds in one day. Smith also set two world records during the competition.



Leanne Smith, center, with other medalists

FOOTBALL

The United States Football League (USFL) ended its regular season on June 19. The New Jersey Generals and the Birmingham Stallions topped their divisions with 9–1 records.

BASEBALL

On June 16, high school pitcher Jurrangel Cijntje wowed at the Major League Baseball Draft Combine, where top young players' skills are assessed. In one inning, he struck out two batters as a lefty and three as a righty.



DID YOU KNOW?

The record for the most goals scored by a player in the NWSL regular season is 18.



The Washington Spirit plays Racing Louisville on June 17.

Goal-filled weekend in NWSL

The National Women's Soccer League (NWSL) is now taking a short pause for international competitions, but teams delivered a weekend of thrilling action before the break. On June 19 alone, 16 goals were scored across three matches.

One competition that day was between the North Carolina Courage and the Houston Dash. Six minutes into the match, North Carolina midfielder Denise O'Sullivan opened the scoring, and Houston forward María Sánchez answered back nine minutes later. The teams went into halftime tied 1–1. In the second half, Houston scored three times in the first seven minutes. The Courage came back, scoring twice in three minutes to cut the deficit to 4–3 with 30 minutes left to play. In the end, they were unable to tie the score, resulting in a Houston win.

The same day, the Portland Thorns beat the Orlando Pride, 6–0, while the first place San Diego Wave defeated Gotham FC, 3–0.

On June 17, there was a tight match between the Washington Spirit and Racing Louisville FC. Washington's star forward Trinity Rodman scored one of her team's two goals in the first half. Louisville broke through in the second half, when forward Nadia Nadim scored off a pass from forward Jess McDonald. The pair did it again with less than five minutes to go, tying up the match, which ended in a draw.

Rodman is among the players who were named to the United States Women's National Team for its upcoming matches. Other top players on the roster include Megan Rapinoe, Alex Morgan, Becky Sauerbrunn, and Rose Lavelle.

SPOTLIGHT ON...



Jacob Chisholm

AGE: 22 SPORT: FOOTBALL

TEAM: UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON FLYERS

Kickoff time I started playing tackle football in first grade. I come from a football family. We always had it on in the house, and my older brother played. I started as soon as I could.

Big shot I'm about 5 feet, 8 inches tall. I was told I was too short to play in college. The University of Dayton gave me a chance. It was my time to show that my height isn't an issue. What matters is the work you do.

Field days During the season, we practice four days a week. Tuesdays and Wednesdays are tough practices with full padding. On Thursdays, we wear a helmet and shoulder pads. Fridays are a walk-through. Games are on Saturdays, and on Sunday we meet and recover.

Chill trick I try to make sure I'm relaxed before every play. I'll take a few deep breaths to clear my head of other thoughts and slow my heart rate.

Post-game plan We have a 24-hour rule for dealing with a loss. It's easy to get into your own head about losing, but it's not good to dwell on it.

Lead role I've been given honors as a player, but my biggest accomplishment is being named captain of my team twice. It shows how much the players respect you, look up to you, and trust you.

Job goals Playing in the National Football League has been a lifelong dream, so I'm trying to pursue that. But I'm also applying to medical school.

Life lesson Don't be afraid. I threw up on the field of my first football practice because I was nervous. Feelings like that will pass—and a lot of other kids are probably feeling the same way too.



COACH OF THE WEEK

Coach's Name: **Dana Pugh**

Organization: **Flip Flop Gym (gymnastics)**

"My coach is amazing because she is very encouraging. I started working with her when I was about 3 years old. She has taught me my cartwheel, roundoff, roundoff handspring, roundoff tuck, and many other skills. She is very hardworking and pushes me to do stuff. If I do something very well, then she'll let me do the next thing I've never done before. I truly love her very much. She is like my second mom." Camille, 9, Kentucky



To nominate a Coach of the Week, send your coach's name, photo, sport, and team to hello@theweekjunior.com. Include your name, age, state, and a few reasons why your coach is great.



Arts and entertainment



Paintings by Paul Cezanne, from left: *Montagne Sainte-Victoire with Large Pine*, *Still Life with Apples*, and *Madame Cezanne in a Yellow Chair*



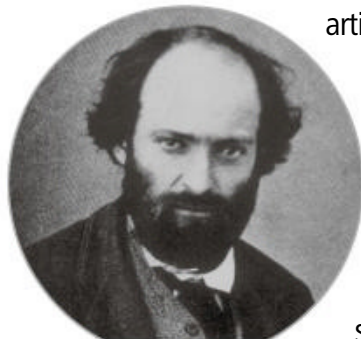
WOW!
The Art Institute of Chicago has about 300,000 works of art in its permanent collection.

Cezanne's art on display

The famous French painter is the subject of a new exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago.

Paul Cezanne, a 19th-century French artist who helped inspire 20th-century abstract art, is the subject of a new major exhibition at the Art Institute of Chicago. *Cezanne* includes 80 oil paintings, 40 watercolors and drawings, and two sketchbooks.

Cezanne lived from 1839 to 1906 in Aix-en-Provence, in the south of France. Some of his favorite subjects were landscapes, still lifes, bathers, and portraits. He was known as an "artist's artist" because other



Paul Cezanne

artists liked and collected his work. Although he was alive when Impressionism (a style of painting that depicts an artist's own view of a scene) was big, he is known as a Post-Impressionist artist. He tried to be different in his life and creatively. Rather than painting the world as he saw it, he focused on how it felt. Ginia Sweeney, the Art Institute's associate director of interpretation, told *The Week Junior* that now was a good time for the show because "following your own vision is a really nice message for 2022."

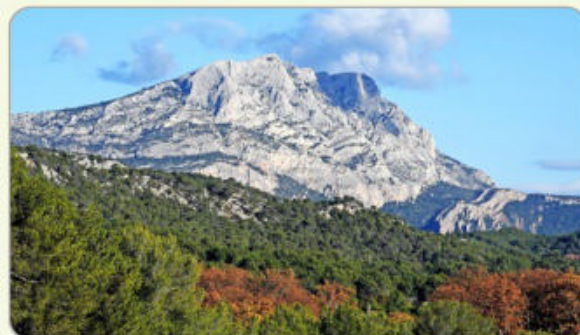
In his paintings, Cezanne often used blocks of colors and large, obvious brushstrokes. Sweeney said that challenges people to see two realities: the subject of the painting and the paint that created it. She also called some of his work "off-kilter." For example, the fruit in one still life looks like it may be about to fall off a table. "This is his very personal perception of the world," she said.

Cezanne influenced many artists that came after him. Sweeney said the museum hopes his work will inspire visitors, too: "It makes you want to look at the world in a different way and think, What's the unique perspective that I can bring?"

3 facts about Cezanne

His studio

In 1902, Cezanne set up an atelier (studio) outside of Aix. He worked there until 1906. Now it is open to the public as a museum. Many items he kept in the studio appear in his art.



Special view

About 100 of Cezanne's paintings feature Montagne Sainte-Victoire, a small mountain in the south of France that can be seen from Aix. He began using it as a subject in the 1870s and depicted it from different views.

Fun drawings

The artist had a playful side. One example is *Figure Studies Around an Engraving of an Ornamental Vase*. In it, Cezanne doodled figures around an engraving (a type of print) made by another artist in the 1700s.



PAUL CEZANNE, MONTAGNE SAINTE-VICTOIRE WITH LARGE PINE, ABOUT 1887; THE COURTAULD GALLERY, LONDON; © COURTAULD GALLERY/BRIDGEMAN IMAGES; PAUL CEZANNE, STILL LIFE WITH APPLES, 1893-94; THE J. PAUL GETTY MUSEUM, LOS ANGELES; PAUL CEZANNE, MADAME CEZANNE IN A YELLOW CHAIR, 1888-90; THE ART INSTITUTE OF CHICAGO, WILSON L. MEAD FUND; GETTY IMAGES (3); PAUL CEZANNE



FUN FACT

In 2013, Kate Bush was made Commander of the Order of the British Empire, a top honor for a British citizen.



Kate Bush

Song from 1985 is a big hit

A song from 1985 is now one of the most popular songs in the US and other countries. "Running Up That Hill (A Deal with God)," by British singer Kate Bush, has returned to the music charts after being featured in the new fourth season of the Netflix sci-fi drama *Stranger Things*. (The series is rated TV-14.) Going into the week of June 18, the song was the most streamed and most sold single and Number 4 on Billboard's Hot 100, which tracks radio play, streams, sales, and more.

Bush's music has an electric, punk rock sound. "Running Up That Hill (A Deal with God)" is a ballad from her 1985 album, *Hounds of Love*.

When it originally came out, the song peaked at Number 30. This is Bush's first Top 10 single.

Stranger Things is set in the 1980s. The song plays in several scenes involving one of the main characters, Max. The show's music supervisor, Nora Felder, thought the song connected well to Max's struggles. Bush, who is a fan of the series, read pages from the script and saw footage before she agreed to allow her song to be used.

The singer said she is thrilled that her song is a hit again and thankful for the positive response and all her new fans. "It's all so exciting!" she wrote on her website. She added, "I've never experienced anything quite like this before!"



MY FAVORITE BOOKS

Craig Melvin, 3rd Hour of *Today* co-anchor, shares his thoughts on the magic of books and the titles he enjoyed reading the most when he was growing up.

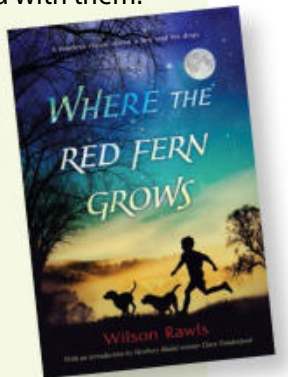


Craig Melvin

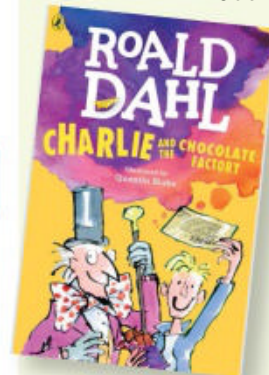
If I could sum up the magic of reading for kids, I would describe it as just that: magical. Since my children were very small, reading has been one of my favorite ways to bond with them.

Introducing them to new places and people and ideas through words is awesome.

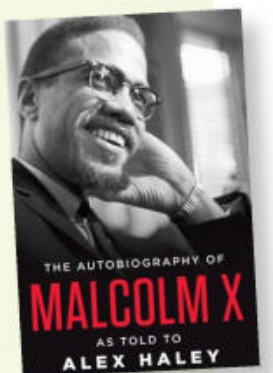
One of the books I loved the most when I was between the ages of 8 and 14 was *Where the Red Fern Grows* by Wilson Rawls. I read it in Mrs. Pack's class in the 4th grade. It's always stayed with me because it was one of the first books I read where I discovered that not all endings are happy. I also



loved *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* by Roald Dahl because, well, it's Charlie, and there's a lot of chocolate. It's a great story—and I've actually enjoyed the movies as well.



The third book I want to highlight was the first one I ever read that wasn't assigned to me. It was *The Autobiography of Malcolm X*, as told to Alex Haley. I read it when I was 13 because the movie was about to come out that year. My cousin gave me the book as a gift and said, "You need to read this." It is a story whose lessons have stayed with me all the days of my life.



For more book ideas, get our list of 50 books at theweekjunior.com/summerofreading.



MOVIE NIGHT

For our Summer of Reading program, we're selecting a film based on a popular book.

The BFG (2016)

PG

Available to rent or buy on all major platforms

Based on the 1982 Roald Dahl book of the same name, this movie follows Sophie, a 10-year-old girl living at an orphanage in England. One night, while everyone else is asleep, Sophie is visited by a giant who carries her off to his home in a faraway land called Giant Country. He proves to be kind and goes by BFG, which is short for "Big Friendly Giant." He grants sweet dreams to sleeping children. He took Sophie to Giant Country because he sensed she was lonely. He's lonely, too, and they become friends. Danger looms as giants named Fleshlumpeater and Meatdrinker plot to grab and eat children at night. To stop them, BFG and Sophie decide to alert the Queen, but first they have to convince her that giants exist. Will they save the children in time?





DID YOU KNOW?

A real hedgehog can reach a top speed of about 6 miles per hour.



Sonic the Hedgehog 2 from Sonic Origins

Classic Sonic games return

Sonic Origins is a new collection of classic games featuring the popular character Sonic the Hedgehog. It is available now on the Nintendo Switch, PlayStation platforms, Xbox systems, and the PC.

Before Sonic was the 3D movie star he is today, he appeared in side-scrolling 2D games. Sonic the Hedgehog was released for the Sega Genesis system in 1991 and was a huge hit. In the game, the speedy hero zoomed through colorful stages, collected rings, and took on bosses working for the evil Dr. Robotnik. Three more games came out between 1992 and 1994. Sonic Origins has remastered versions of those four original games.

Every Sonic sequel contained bigger worlds and new characters, such as Sonic's flying sidekick, Tails, and his

wall-crawling frenemy, Knuckles. In Sonic Origins, you can play as all three characters. A new story mode also connects the four games together, making it possible to experience the full adventure at once. The new Anniversary Mode even allows Sonic, Tails, and Knuckles to take on Dr. Robotnik without losing lives and reaching Game Over.

The original Sonic games weren't very hard, but now players can increase the challenge by switching into Boss Rush. In that mode, you can take on every boss in order. Once you conquer all the original bad guys, you can check out new missions and side quests, which build on the four games and create additional challenges. The toughest part of the game, though, might be keeping it away from the adults who loved it as kids.



Sonic characters



WEBSITE OF THE WEEK

A SOFT MURMUR

asoftmurmur.com

If you're trying to concentrate on homework or just want to relax, this website may help. The site has 10 free sounds, including a crackling fire, chirping birds, and crashing waves. You can play them on their own or mix together a soundtrack and save it for another time.



PODCAST OF THE WEEK



GRIMM, GRIMMER, GRIMMEST

Pinna, Apple Podcasts, Spotify

In each episode, a classic tale is retold by Adam Gidwitz, the best-selling author of *A Tale Dark and Grimm*. Expect wicked witches, magical kingdoms, and trips through the woods. Some stories are darker than others, but they're all rated on a grimness scale, so you'll know what to expect.



VIDEO OF THE WEEK

I FLEW WITH BIRDS. YOU CAN TOO.

tinyurl.com/TWJUS-BirdFlight

YouTuber Tom Scott joins French pilot Christian Moullec on his microlight aircraft (a plane with no more than two seats weighing less than 1,000 pounds) as he guides geese to new homes. You'll learn about the work Moullec has been doing for more than 20 years and why it's so important.





BOOK OF THE WEEK

Rise of the School for Good and Evil

By Soman Chainani

(HarperCollins)

This book is set before the School for Good and Evil series begins.

Twin brothers Rhian and Rafal run a training school for heroes and villains in fairy tales. The school has two branches: one for good and the other for evil. Although Rhian leads the good branch and Rafal heads the evil one, Storian, the magical pen that writes tales, has never specified which brother is good or evil. When Storian assigns Aladdin, a widely known thief, to the School for Good, a rift between the brothers begins. Will they be



torn apart? This story is packed with action and shows you the character flaws in both schools. You don't need to have read the

School for Good and Evil series before this book, but if you did, the plot twist at the end will be more meaningful. You'll learn about the origin of the Swan Crest, the Trails, and other references in the original series. *Ages 10 and up*



STORY STARTER

If you're interested in writing a story but aren't sure where to begin, use this inspiration from Soman Chainani. He has written the first sentence of a story below. Now write what comes next. It can be anything! Sometimes it's easier to be creative when you have a jumping-off point. Have fun!

"It wasn't often that you went from being the most loved to the most hated person on the planet."



Ask the Author: Soman Chainani

We spoke to Soman Chainani, who wrote this issue's Book of the Week. He is one of *The Week Junior's* Summer of Reading Author Ambassadors, and his popular School for Good and Evil series has sold more than 3 million copies.



Which school would you be in—good or evil?

Definitely evil. It's always been in my nature to root for villains! Sophie [from the original series] is the character who is most like me. She's very contrarian and has a strong point of view.



What was the topic of the first story you wrote as a child?

In elementary school, I wrote detective stories starring myself at Somy Holmes, a character inspired by the famous fictional detective Sherlock Holmes. There would always be a murder, and I would make my classmates the suspects.



Is it OK to stop reading a book if you don't like it?

Yes, if you're not into a book by page 20, drop it. It's an author's job to get you hooked in the first 20 pages.

What's something about you that surprises people?

I think there's an alternate version of me who is a professional athlete. If I weren't an author, I'd be a pro tennis player.



Your starting word for Wordle?

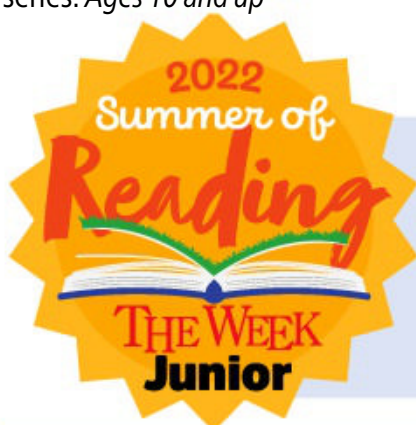
Yesterday I started with "movie," but I change up the word I start with daily.

Do you prefer ice cream or froyo?

Froyo with rainbow



Our list of 50 Books Kids Love Most and details about entering our Summer of Reading sweepstakes can be found at theweekjunior.com/summerofreading. Happy reading!





How to...

DID YOU KNOW?

The oldest known photograph, a view from a window, was taken in France in 1826.



Explore photography

Find out about the art of taking pictures and give it a shot yourself.

From painting to sculpture to collage, there are many ways to be an artist. Photography is also an art form. It allows people to express their creativity through images they capture with a camera. Learn the basics on how to get started here, then consider entering our photo contest (see next page).

Choose a camera

The first step is deciding what kind of camera you'll use. You can ask an adult if they have an old digital camera you can borrow. These were popular before smartphones were invented. Or you can use the camera function on a smartphone or tablet to take your pictures.

Decide on a subject

Next you'll need to choose a subject (or focal point) for your photos. There are so many options! You could photograph a person, a pet, or an event, such as a neighborhood block party or a concert. Or you could focus on an object, such as a tree or a favorite toy. (Our photo contest has a nature theme.)

Set it up

Now think about the composition of your photo, which is how the people and objects are arranged. The way many photographers figure this out is to follow the "rule of thirds." To get the hang of it, print out a photo or clip

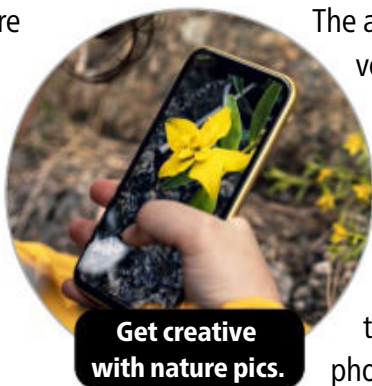
one from a magazine. Then use a ruler to draw two horizontal and two vertical lines across the photograph so the picture is split into nine equal rectangles. You want the focal point in your photo to be at one of the points where two lines intersect. This means that your subject is slightly off-center rather than right in the middle. When you take a photo, imagine where those lines would be in your frame.

Look for sunlight

The amount of light in a photograph is also very important, and natural light from the Sun creates the best images. Snapping your photos outside is an easy way to ensure good light. If you're inside, try to take your photo near a window that has light coming through it. The best time of day to capture sunlight in your photos is right around sunrise or sunset. The Sun is low in the sky at these times, so it won't cast harsh shadows on your subject.

Practice often

As with many hobbies, practicing will help you get better at photography. Try taking an interesting photo every day for a week, and mix up what types of pictures you take. Experiment with subjects, composition, and lighting to see what looks good to you. And don't forget to print out and display your favorites!



Get creative with nature pics.

4 creative ways to display photos

After you print out your favorite pictures, you can use them to decorate your home with these easy ideas.

Use tape

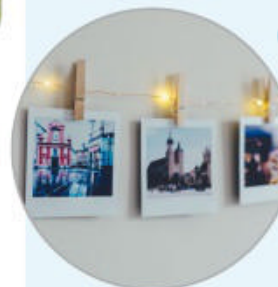
Roll up pieces of washi tape and put them on the backs of your photos, then attach them to a wall. Use more strips of colorful washi tape to create the four sides of a frame around each photo.



Clip to a string

Hang a long string from one end of a wall

to the other. Add clothespins along the string to hold your favorite photos.



Create a collage

Take a plain wooden box or frame and layer your photos (or cut out parts of the photos) onto it. To keep the photos flat, paint over them with clear glue, such as Mod Podge, when you're done.



Make a shape

Arrange your photos in a shape, like a heart or

a star, on a large poster board. Glue or tape them down, then hang the poster on the wall.





Enter our nature photo contest!



The winning images from last year's nature photo contest appeared in the magazine.

Do you love taking photographs of plants, flowers, trees, and wildlife? When you're outdoors, are you often trying to capture the amazing beauty of the natural world? If so, now is your chance to put your creativity, curiosity, and skills to work by entering *The Week Junior's* nature photo contest.

The deadline to enter is July 18!

How to enter

- **Follow the judging criteria.** Submissions will be judged on quality (clear, well-composed photographs that aren't blurry), originality (the use of creativity and imagination through the camera lens), and how well the entry reflects the nature theme and *The Week Junior*.
- **Choose one photo to enter.** Only one photograph per entrant is allowed.
- **Fill out an entry form.** With a parent, complete an entry form and submit it by July 18.
- **Enter the correct age group category.** Children ages 8 to 10 will be judged in one category. Children ages 11 to 14 will be judged in another category. Winners will be selected from each category. The entry form for 8- to 10-year-olds is at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-PhotoContest-8-10. The entry form for 11- to 14-year-olds is at tinyurl.com/TWJUS-PhotoContest-11-14.

NO PURCHASE OR SUBSCRIPTION NECESSARY. Open to legal residents of US, DC, Puerto Rico, US Virgin Islands, 8–14 years. Professional artists are not eligible. Ends 11:59:59 pm ET 7/18/2022. Void where prohibited. See Official Rules at theweekjunior.com/photocontestrules. Sponsor: The Week Publications, Inc., a subsidiary of Future US LLC.

The judges

The nature photo contest will be judged by Editor-in-Chief Andrea Barbalich, Creative Director Dean Abatemarco, and Photo Editors Nataki Hewling and Lily Alt. The entries will also be judged by three award-winning photographers who make their living taking pictures: Jesse Burke, Christa Renee, and Michael Rowe.

The prize

The winning entries will be featured in a September 2022 issue of *The Week Junior*.



Crisscross

Each of these words about July 4th fits into this grid. Can you find where each one goes to complete the grid?

3 letters

USA

4 letters

FLAG

FREE

5 letters

STARS

6 letters

ANTHEM

7 letters

AMERICA

COUNTRY

HOLIDAY

STRIPES

9 letters

FIREWORKS

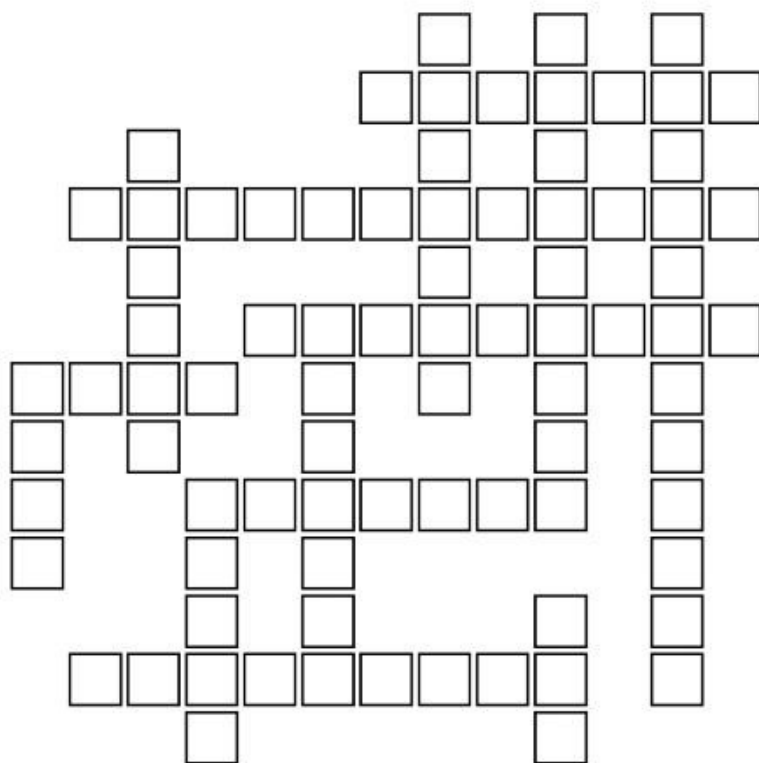
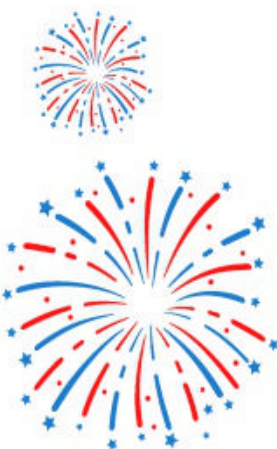
PATRIOTIC

STREAMERS

12 letters

INDEPENDENCE

MARCHING BAND



Take five

Five 5-letter words in "The Star-Spangled Banner" are hidden in this grid. For each one, the first letter is somewhere in the first column, the second is somewhere in the second column, and so on. Can you find all five?

P	I	A	H	S
E	R	G	R	E
B	T	R	O	Y
L	R	O	V	T
S	A	A	L	F

ALL THE SAME

Each answer contains the letters U-S-A. Those letters have been placed for you. Can you figure out the words? (NEED A HINT? Check the bottom of the page.)

1. Breakfast meat that can come in links

USA

2. Scheherazade told stories for this many Arabian nights plus one

USA

3. Composer who wrote "The Stars and Stripes Forever"

USA

4. The act of saying "I won't!"

USA

5. Holy city with a Wailing Wall

USA

ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.

SUDOKU

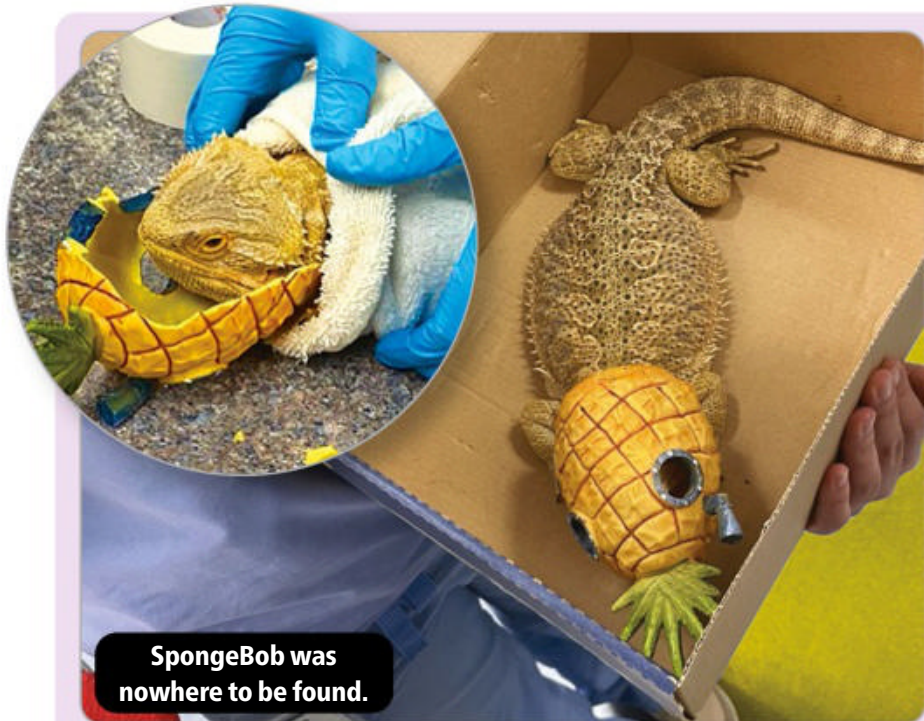
To complete the grid, place the numbers from 1 to 6 exactly once in each row, column, and 2x3 bold-lined box.

	3				5
		1		2	
			1		4
3		4			
	6		3		
1				4	

Spot the difference

These two pictures of parrots appear to be the same, but take a closer look. There are actually five differences. Can you see them?





SpongeBob was nowhere to be found.

Stuck in SpongeBob's house

An animal hospital in Massachusetts had to deal with "the cutest emergency we've ever had" when a pet lizard got its head stuck inside a toy pineapple. To free Randy the bearded dragon, vets at the New England Animal Medical Center had to break open the pineapple—a model of the underwater home of SpongeBob Squarepants. "We're not laughing at you Randy, we are laughing with you," the center wrote in a social media post. "The pineapple didn't make it, but Randy is back home happily laying in the sun."

A cheesy manicure

The cheese company Velveeta has begun selling an unlikely product: nail polish. Its new Pinkies Out Polish Collection comes in two mouthwatering colors: "La Dolce Velveeta" yellow and "Finger Food" red. The company also released a set of nail stickers that look like mini pasta shells and melted cheese. Not only can fans match the look of their favorite snack, their painted nails will smell like Velveeta cheese, too. "Please don't eat it," the company said.



Looks finger-licking good!



That's \$20 per bug.

Riches for roaches?

A pest control company is offering \$2,000 to anyone who will allow 100 cockroaches to be released into their home. The Pest Informer, based in North Carolina, is seeking five or six US homeowners for an experiment to test new methods for dealing with roach infestations. If the new techniques don't work, they promise to rid the house of roaches the usual way.



Did Bertie get a premium seat?

Real or fake?

Bus bird takes a first-class trip

If you could fly, you probably wouldn't bother taking the bus—unless you were treated like a guest of honor. That's what happened to Bertie the pheasant when he hopped on the Number 9 bus on the UK island of Jersey. The bus driver, Miguel, was so amazed, he brought Bertie to the front of the bus and let the bird travel beside him. The bus company, LibertyBus, said that birds are now welcome on their vehicles. Is this story true or just a flight of fancy?*



The rowing champ

Across the Atlantic Ocean in 40 days

Believe it or not: Britain's Victoria Evans has made history as the fastest woman to row alone across the Atlantic Ocean. For 40 days, 21 hours, and 1 minute, Evans rowed a tiny boat from Barbados in the Caribbean to the Canary Islands off the coast of Africa, breaking the previous record by eight days. Her journey raised more than \$60,000 for Women in Sport, a charity that works to expand women's opportunities to participate in athletics. Evans said, "I hope this record demonstrates to all women and girls just what we are capable of."

*Fake! Bertie the pheasant did jump on the bus, but he got an un-pheasant reception. LibertyBus has a "no birds on board" policy, so driver Miguel coaxed him to the front and put him back on the pavement.



Your turn

Editor's note

My son is a huge fan of the Boston Red Sox, and we've been fortunate to attend many games at Fenway Park (p12). We love everything about it, from the pre-game excitement outside the stadium, where Big League Brian never fails to make an appearance on stilts, to the first glimpse of the Green Monster as we enter the park and the "Sweet Caroline" sing-along in the eighth inning. If we're really lucky, we get to hear "Dirty Water" at the end, which means the Red Sox have won the game. Even if you aren't a Red Sox fan, I hope you enjoy reading about the history of America's oldest Major League park. I also invite you to enter our second annual photo contest (p25). The amazing participation we had last year made the job of choosing winners very difficult, and we hope more young photographers will enter this year to make the judging even harder!

Andrea Barbalich
Editor-in-Chief



Helping people in need

“The last time my family planned a day trip to the city, I suggested that we make care packages for homeless people in Pittsburgh. I used some of my money that I had saved up and bought toothpaste, toothbrushes, apples, jerky, bottled water, and granola bars. I was able to help eight people, and it felt very good to be able to help people in need.”

Have you done something interesting or raised money for a cause you care about? Whatever you're up to, we want to hear about it at hello@theweekjunior.com.



Amelia, 11, Pennsylvania

JOKE OF THE WEEK
Which dinosaur is the best with words?
A thesaurus



CHARITY OF THE WEEK



Including You

This organization has a mentoring program that assists children with getting their educational needs met. Students can choose what activities to do with their mentor, such as homework help. The group encourages children to make friends and learn new skills through fun activities. It also provides medical equipment, such as crutches, to students. Find out more at includingyou.org.



Show support for Ukraine

People around the world are continuing to call for an end to the war in Ukraine. If you would like to express a wish for peace, go to theweekjunior.com/ukraine with an adult to print out our poster template. Add a drawing or a message and display it in your window or on your front door. To share your poster with us, ask an adult to take a photo of it and send it to hello@theweekjunior.com. An adult can also share it on social media using #StandWithUkraine and tag us at @theweekjuniorus.



THE WEEK
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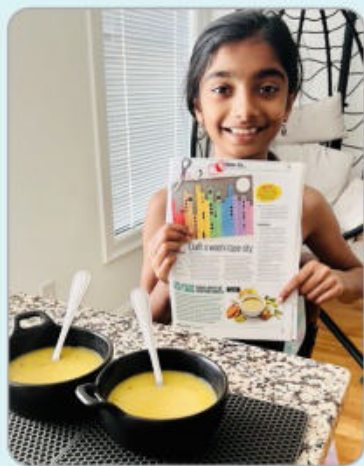
IT'S YOUR TURN

Email your news, views, and photos to hello@theweekjunior.com.



YOUR PHOTOS

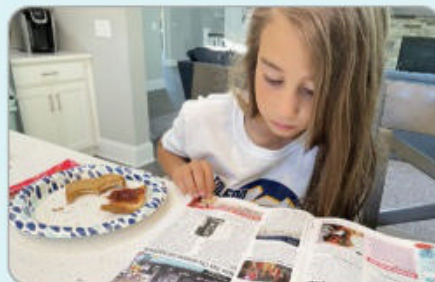
We'd love to see pictures you've taken or pictures with you in them! Send them to us at hello@theweekjunior.com, along with anything you'd like to tell us about what's in the photo.



"Thank you for publishing the recipe to make vegetable broth in the Eco Tip of the Week. I made this yummy-tasting vegetable soup following the recipe with help from Dad."
Mahati, 10, Connecticut



"We subscribe to *The Week Junior* and took our recent magazine about the Lincoln Memorial to Washington, DC, on our family vacation."
Jake, 11, Calvin, 6, and Evan, 9, Wisconsin



"I love reading *The Week Junior* while I'm eating my breakfast. My favorite sections are Science and Technology and the animal stories."
Taegan, 8, Ohio

POPJAM

Sign up and follow @theweekjunior on PopJam, a social media platform for kids 7-12. Ask an adult to download the app from iTunes or Google Play.

We asked: What was the best book you recently read?

"Percy Jackson has a lot of action and Greek mythology, which I love learning about."

"The Marvellers!"

"Cold War Correspondent by Nathan Hale is an awesome book about a news reporter in the Korean War."

"Sweep by Jonathan Auxier!"

In the big debate, we asked: Should people be able to rent out pools?

"Yes! For birthday parties or special events if you don't have your own pool."

"The rent should be for a select time period only."

"Just use public pools!"

Now tell us: What was your favorite toy when you were younger and why?



Teacher OF THE WEEK

Teacher's Name: **Mr. Lewis**

School: **Menlo School**

"Mr. Lewis is the drama teacher, and we always do something fun in his classroom. He lets us pick which drama activity we want to do each day, and he has such a caring and energetic personality. Whenever he talks, students smile because he is super dramatic and funny, too. He really understands students and tries to make everyone heard and respected."

Marissa, 13, California

Nominate your teacher for Teacher of the Week! Send your reason for the nomination, a photo of your teacher, and your school's name and address to hello@theweekjunior.com.



Puzzle answers (from page 26)

Take five
proof
early
brave
light
stars

All the same
1. sausage
2. thousand
3. Sousa
4. refusal
5. Jerusalem

2	3	6	4	1	5
5	4	1	6	2	3
6	2	5	1	3	4
3	1	4	5	6	2
4	6	2	3	5	1
1	5	3	2	4	6

C F M
HOLIDAY
A U R
I N D E P E N D E N C E
T T W H
H P A T R I O T I C
F R E E M Y R N
L M S T R I P E S K G
A T I C U N D
S T R E A M E R S S D



Quiz answers (from page 30)

1 a) 1991 2 True 3 Mexico 4 b) 192.2 mph 5 False. He is the only US President to have resigned. 6 Spotted fanaloka 7 a) 1893 8 True 9 Big Friendly Giant 10 a) Wyoming 11 False. They grew more slowly. 12 a) California redwoods 13 True 14 Rhian and Rafal 15 b) Pineapple

We want to hear from you! To have your letters, photos, nominations, recommendations, or ideas considered for inclusion in the magazine, please include your full name, age, and state with your submission. By emailing your submission to us, you give *The Week Junior* consent to publish it in the magazine and online. Please get your parent/guardian's permission before sending anything to us.



Quiz of the week

How much of this week's news can you remember?

1 When was the Sonic the Hedgehog video game first released?

a) 1991 b) 1992 c) 1994

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

2 True or false? The Green Monster in Fenway Park is the highest stadium wall in Major League Baseball.

True ☐ False ☐

3 Katya Echazarreta is the first woman born in what country to go to space?

4 How fast did the self-driving car Dallara AV-21 travel to break a land speed record?

a) 175.49 mph

b) 192.2 mph

c) 200 mph

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

5 True or false? President Richard Nixon is one of two US Presidents to have resigned from office.

True ☐ False ☐

6 The Nashville Zoo recently welcomed the historic birth of which animal?

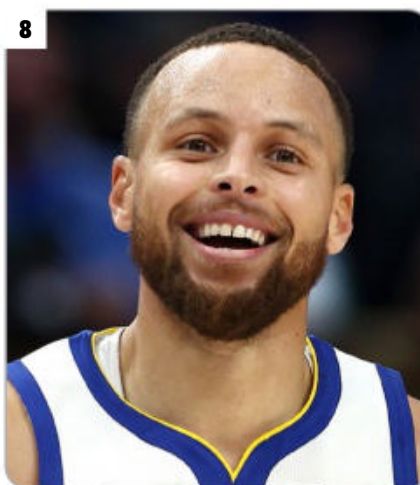
7 When were the bronze lions outside of the Art Institute of Chicago designed?

a) 1893 b) 1923 c) 1953

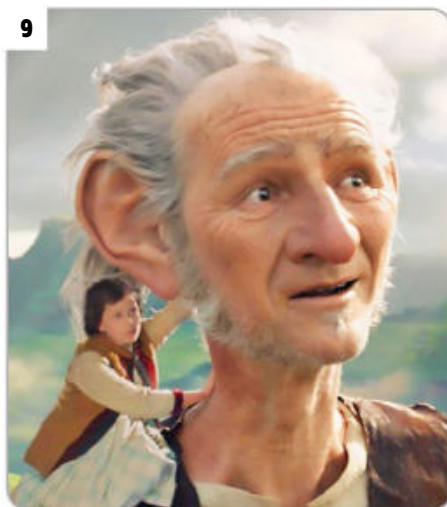
a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

8 True or false? Golden State Warriors star Stephen Curry won his first NBA Finals Most Valuable Player award this year.

True ☐ False ☐



ANSWERS
CAN BE
FOUND ON
PAGE 29.



9 In the movie *The BFG*, what does BFG stand for?

10 In what state is most of Yellowstone National Park located?

a) Wyoming

b) Montana

c) Idaho

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

11 True or false? Plants grown in soil from the Moon grew faster than plants grown in volcanic ash from Earth.

True ☐ False ☐

12 Wandering salamanders skydive from the tops of what tree species?

a) California redwoods

b) Eastern white pines

c) Giant sequoias

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

13 True or false? "Running Up That Hill (A Deal with God)" is singer Kate Bush's first top 10 single.

True ☐ False ☐

14 What are the names of the twin brothers who run the training school in the book *Rise of the School for Good and Evil*?

15 A bearded dragon named Randy got his head stuck in what kind of toy fruit?

a) Apple b) Pineapple c) Peach

a ☐ b ☐ c ☐

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Give a gift of *The Week Junior* for a smart start on summer reading fun! Our Summer of Reading program includes an exclusive list of the 50 books kids most want to read, author interviews, and a three-book reading challenge with a chance to win prizes! It's a wonderful way to support a child's literacy over the summer and to continue developing their love of reading that will last a lifetime. Perfect for birthdays, graduation, or anytime you want to delight a child you love.

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A super red iguana perches on a branch in Indonesia. There are at least 35 species of iguanas found around the world.